Open Jails in States

3485. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain States have not found practicable to construct open jails in their respective States;

(b) if so, reasons therefor alongwith names of the States where one or more open jail exists; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to establish more open jails and also to impress upon the States to do the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) "Prisons" being a State subject as per List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, it is for the State Governments to consider taking into account the requirement and local conditions, the viability of constructing open jails.

At the end of year 2001, there were 23 open jails in the different States, namely, Andhra Pradesh-2, Assam-1, Gujarat-2, Himachal Pradesh-1, Karnataka-1, Kerala-2, Maharashtra-2, Punjab-2, Rajasthan-7, Tamil Nadu-1, Uttaranchal-1 and West Bengal-1.

(c) The Government have introduced a new non-plan scheme with an outlay of 1800 crores for Modernisation of Prison infrastructure with effect from the year 2002-03 which, *inter-alia*, provides for construction of new prisons, repair and renovation of old prisons. Open jails may also be constructed under the Scheme by the State Governments if they require them.

Migration of Kashmiri Pandits from valley

3486. SHRI LALIT SURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Kashmiri Pandit families, indicating the total number of persons, who migrated out of Kashmir Valley after the Nandimarg massacre on the night of 23rd March, 2003;

(b) the places where they have been given residential accommodation and what monetary and other material assistance has been provided to them by the Central and the State Governments sseparately; and

(c) the steps taken or are proposed to be taken for the security of the members of the minority communities who choose to remain in the valley?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) As intimated by the Government of J&K , 86 families (including some families of Sikhs) have migrated from the Valley so far, after the Nadimarg incident and have reported in Relief Commissioner (Migrants's) Office, Jammu for registration as migrants.

(b) Relief being a State Subject, it is for the State Government to provide accommodation and relief assistance to the migrants families. However, part of the expenditure incurred on relief is being reimbursed as per pre-determined norms to the State Government by the Central Government. As per information made available by the State Government, the migrant families are at present staying under their own arrangements. Accommodation and relief to the needy families is to be provided by State Government after they are formally registered as migrants under Relief Category.

(c) The State Government have informed that they have taken the following steps to provide security to remote, scattered and minority populations—

(i) The already existing security component adequately strengthened and deployment pattern drawn afresh to suit the situation at different habitations of minorities.

(ii) The patrolling around the minority areas intensified to control access of terrorists in these areas.

(iii) Regular review of security of minority pickets is undertaken.

(iv) Accelerated efforts by Police/Civil Administration to instill a sense of security among the minorities by holding regular meetings with a view to improve security arrangements.

(v) Area sanitization ensured by respective Security Forces agencies around minority locations.

(vi) Communication linkage provided to these locations to meet any eventuality.

(vii) Static guards provided at the locations inhabited by the members of the minority community in the Valley.

(viii) Guard personnel equipped with sophisticated weaponry and communication facilities to foil attacks of terrorists.

Action plan for development of naxalite affected districts

3487. DR. AKHILESH DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether Special Action Plans for speedy development of the naxalite affected districts of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and other States have been taken up;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, indicating their respective costs; and the progress made in implementation thereof; and

(c) the special central funding so far sought therefor and response of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (c) Integrated Action Plans, encompassing development as well as security aspects in the affected areas, were received from Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 1299.17 crores), Bihar (Rs. 1862.72 crores) Chhattisgarh (Rs. 1435.13 crores), Madhya Pradesh (Rs. 615 crores) Maharashtra (Rs. 838 crores) and Orissa (Rs. 268.84 crores) and were forwarded to the Planning Commission for earmarking separate funds for the purpose. The Planning Commission raised certain issues regarding institutional measures to make administration responsible and strengthen delivery mechanism through greater involvement of the people. The concerned State Governments were advised accordingly.

Besides, the Ministry has requested the Planning Commission to include 53 affected districts in LWE States under the Scheme of Backward Districts Initiative (BDI) so as to fill in the critical gaps in physical and social in frastructure in these districts.

Setting up of Disaster Management Authority

3488. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Disaster Management Authority comprising of hand picked personnel from Security Forces and train them to takle crisis situation;